

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 18 to 37 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 paper and cited references.

II. Rejection of Claims 18 to 20, 25, 28, 29, 32, 36, and 37 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 18 to 20, 25, 28, 29, 32, 36, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,680,048 ("Wollny"). It is respectfully submitted that Wollny does not anticipate the present claims as amended herein for at least the following reasons.

Claim 18 has been amended herein without prejudice to recite that the hand-held short-range radar device includes a displacement sensor that detects signal characteristics of the sensors. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, on page 5, lines 18 to 24, of the Specification. The displacement sensor that is integrated in the present device makes it possible to directly assign a measured value of one or more sensors to a location position of the device, so that in addition to the current signal levels, that is, signal characteristics, the signal strength as a function of the displacement may also be represented.

Wollny does not disclose, or even suggest, a displacement sensor that detects signal characteristics of the sensors. Wollny describes a mine detection system including a wand (102), a housing mounted to the wand (102), a signal processor (201) supported by the wand (102), a ground penetrating radar system (305) in communication with the signal processor (201), and a metal detector system (302) in communication with the signal processor (201). In Wollny, only the current measured result at the existing current measurement location is displayed. A recording of measured signal data as a function of the displacement, and in

particular an assignment of a measured signal value to a location coordinate is not possible, since the device according to Wollny, is swung freely above a subsurface, without being able to record displacement information via a displacement sensor. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Wollny does not disclose, or even suggest, all of the features included in claim 18. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that Wollny does not anticipate claim 18, or claims 19, 20 and 25, which depend from claim 18.

Claim 28 has been amended herein without prejudice to be analogous to amended claim 18, and recites that the method for localizing at least one object enclosed in a medium includes, *inter alia*, that signal characteristics of the sensors are detected via a displacement sensor. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Wollny does not disclose, or even suggest, all of the features included in claim 28. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that Wollny does not anticipate claim 28, or claims 29, 32, 36, and 37, which depend from claim 28.

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Rejection of Claims 21 to 24, 26, 27, and 30 to 32 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 21 to 24, 26, 27, and 30 to 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,680,048 ("Wollny"). It is respectfully submitted that Wollny does not render unpatentable the present claims as amended herein for at least the following reasons.

Claims 21 to 24, 26, and 27, ultimately depend from claim 18 and therefore include all of the features included in claim 18, and claims 30 to 32 ultimately depend from claim 28 and therefore include all of the features included in claim 28. As more fully set forth above, Wollny does not disclose, or even suggest, all of the features included in claims 18 or 28. As such, any claim that depends from claims 18 or 28 is patentable over Wollny. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) (any claim that depends from a non-obvious independent claim is non-obvious).

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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